

THE LARGEST SELLING ENGLISH MONTHLY MAGAZINE

SHE

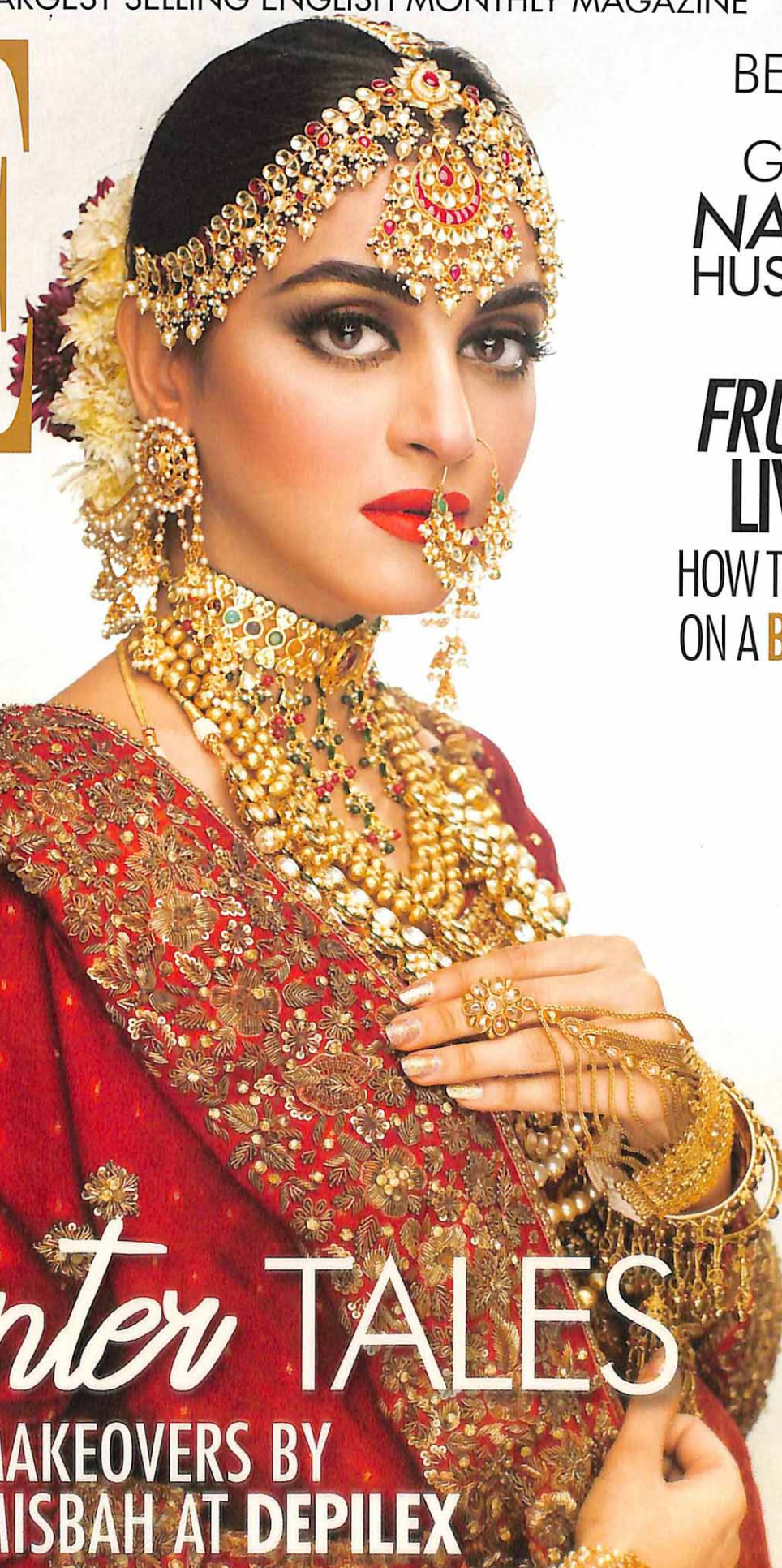
NOVEMBER 2019

BEAUTY  
AND  
GRACE  
**NADIA  
HUSSAIN**

**FRUGAL  
LIVING**  
HOW TO SHOP  
ON A **BUDGET**

*Winter* **TALES**

BRIDAL MAKEOVERS BY  
NIGHAT MISBAH AT DEPILEX



# SHE

since 1963

THE LARGEST SELLING ENGLISH MONTHLY MAGAZINE

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### Karachi Office

20-F, Third Floor, 24th Commercial Street,  
DHA Phase 2 Extension, Karachi.  
Tel.: [021] 35885688, 35885689  
shezed@cyber.net.pk  
magazineshe@gmail.com

### Lahore Office

7-E, Saman Berg,  
Johar Town, Lahore.  
Tel: 042-35222660  
Mbl: 0300-4214400

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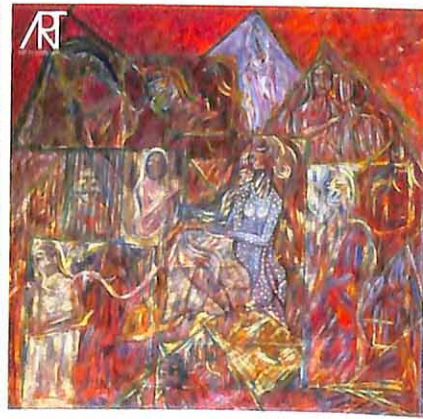
# LAHORE SHROUDED IN SMOG

For three stifling years in a row, the city of Lahore has consistently found itself blanketed in thick toxic smog during the winter months, beginning late October and early November. It has reached a point where the citizens of the city refer to it as the 'fifth season'. This year round, the air quality in Lahore hit an all-time low with the level exceeding 550 on the Air Quality Index — which is quantified as hazardous when it crosses 300, and comes with the advice of keeping indoors and suspending outdoor activities. Another index also ranked Lahore as the second most polluted city in the world. The smog is expected to last till February, and people in different parts of the province of Punjab are beginning to question the government's efforts in mitigating the poisonous air they are forced to breathe in.

The thick gray smog that engulfs parts of Punjab has health experts and environmentalists horrified at its repercussions, which will be severely damaging to the citizens and the environment. Experts warn that the pollutant-filled air will damage health and shorten life expectancy if the air quality continues to deteriorate, affecting the most vulnerable group most severely— children and older people. People have begun reporting health concerns on social media and now global rights group Amnesty International has stepped in and called the Punjab government out for its failure to implement the findings of the smog commission formed in 2017 and declaring the negligence as human rights violation.

The government on the other hand is in blatant denial of its failure, reiterating the long held belief that the smog is the result of Indian farmers stubble-burning right before harvest season. While it is part of the reason, a lot of the smog is also created by Pakistan's own pollution, as discovered by the R-Smog report prepared by the Agriculture Department and UNFAO. Vehicular emissions resulting from substandard fuel quality, industrial pollution, large-scale losses of trees, burning of municipal and industrial waste and brick kilns with dirty fuel are all contributing factors to this hazardous air.

While the government has taken steps to manage the smog, the response is slow and the threat largely downplayed. For starters, the government needs to install more monitoring devices that give accurate AQI readings, instead of the defunct systems that were half-heartedly put in place last year. Stricter fines need to be imposed on vehicular emissions and industrial power plants creating hazardous smoke and public health emergency should be declared at the most affected areas to prevent the slow-choking of a populace of 11 million people.





# Nahid Raza

## THE FORM OF WOMAN

### BACKGROUND AND EARLY EDUCATION

I belong to Syed family; my father's name was Syed Yusuf Raza and he was a journalist and an intellectual personality who wrote for the newspaper Times Of Karachi. I received my early education from Convent School in Hyderabad and thereafter my father admitted me in Model School Nursery. Though I started my education from convent school and completed secondary education from government schools, I did not feel there were any shortcomings as the standard of public schools at that time was remarkably high.

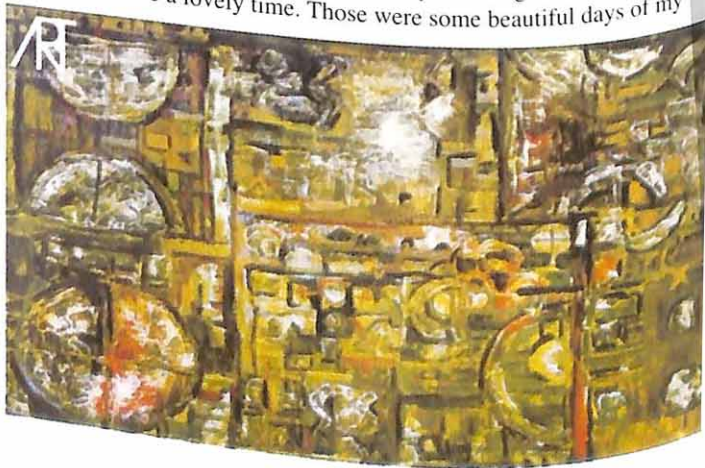
### CHILDHOOD AND HER LOVE FOR ART

I have had this fondness for art since my childhood days when I used to make drawings on my father's newsprint and my father would watch. My parents were nice, simple people and my mother was a housewife who would advise me to just study and occupy myself with routine work and not work on art. My parents wanted me to study science but since I always was inclined towards learning art, I would paint at home. Despite my keen interest, my parents did not agree and always rooted for medical education. However, it all changed one day when my uncle

Ali Imam came from London and saw my watercolour paintings at home. He convinced my parents to let me be an artist.

### NOTABLE LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL SHOWS

After I completed my education, I tried to do my first show but struggled to avail the gallery. I went to the GOETHE Institute and requested them to host a show for me and showed the Director some of my work. He loved it and from then on always asked about my work and yearly progress and even invited me to Germany. I went and stayed there. While I was there, there was a very nice exhibition, with many intellectuals in attendance including philosophers and professors and one professor whose name was Dr. Schulz asked whether I would like to come to Berlin to which I said, "Oh yes, why not," and so he arranged an exhibition for me in Geo Gallery. My stay in Berlin was very nice, I used to go to the gallery on foot and would visit museums there. I was there for a week and sold about 35 paintings out of a total of 40 paintings and the remaining 5 were sold out by Dr. Schulz and sent me the cost of those pictures. Back in the day, people from the German Embassy and American Embassy used to gather at my place and we'd have a lovely time. Those were some beautiful days of my





me so much reputation. I went to Chawkandi and made 300 drawings, spending three months there. I used to paint these at home, mostly at night time, and that show built fame and praise for me everywhere. Even Bradford Museum showed interest in the Chawkandi Tombs series and asked me to send 4 paintings of it, for which they sent me 1000 pounds. It is said that these paintings are still exhibiting in the museum. So Chawkandi introduced my name everywhere. I had started working on Chawkandi in 1980 and continued

life. Whenever I'd get called to Germany, America, U.K and France etc they wouldn't let me incur any expenditure from my pocket and would even send me tickets for my visits. I visited America many times and they'd ask me to stay and would even offer residence and citizenship but each time I'd refuse because I loved my country too much. I have availed so much in life because of art for which I feel really proud. Art gave me everything, respect and reputation in America and I did three shows in America for which I got a lot of money. I went there on Fulbright scholarship, I gave lectures in thirteen different universities on Art and Pakistan; I would use slides with verbal explanation. On return from universities, I'd always find envelopes in my hotel with cheques of \$1,000. Believe me, I got so much respect everywhere whether it was Germany or France or any other place, for which I am always thankful to Almighty Allah. This one time, I did a show in the gallery of Bradford University with Iqbal Husain and Jamal Shah as all three of us were sent there but only my paintings were sold, some of which were purchased by the finance director of the University too. These are experiences of my life, which work as a tonic for me.

## INSPIRATION

I was inspired by Picasso and I used to like him but I was determined not to copy anyone who inspired me. I never copied Jamil Naqsh, never tried to adopt his style despite my affinity for him. I have always worked from my own mind which is why you will not see any similarity with others. You will never see Picasso and Jamil Naqsh in my work because an artist shows his/her own feelings and their feelings always show truth in their work.

## THEMES IN ART

I have worked on too many themes and my first series was the Still Life Series and thereafter I did Jharokay Series and then I did the Chawkandi Tomb series which gave



up to 1984 and thereafter I went to America and stayed there for six months. While I was there, I would miss my children Azfar and Zaini and would cry for them. It prompted me to work on the feeling of a mother and I started to work on the Woman series in which I showed the mother as main object. More



recently, I have made Whisper Of Black And White which has a woman and it looks like black and are whispering. I intend on working on something new. The topic will be with reference to woman but with some intellectual connotations. It will relate to women, time and transition. I mostly work on projects related to women. It has become my identity, I work on the values or status of women in the society. A mother's stature is very high and because of this the status of a woman is further elevated. I have worked a lot on the topic of motherhood. I have shown how giving a woman can be, and her obedience. In our culture a woman holds high status. There is no comparison of a woman's character.

## ADVICE FOR YOUNG ARTISTS

I must emphasize upon the young artist community that art is a very serious affair and one should not take it easy and try to trace its roots. Learn art and learn about the senior painters of your country. You will lose your identity without having a relationship with them. When I was a student at the Arts Council, there was a renowned artist Sadequain who used to work in Manzar Akbar hall. He used to paint there, sitting and laying down and even used to sleep there. The students of the Arts Council of that time used to watch his work and talk to him. He always showed his pleasure and welcomed students, even offering to make their portraits. He was always in merriment and all the students used to see his work for their learning. His paintings were wonderful and many students being inspired by him tried to work on his pattern, but he was full of talent and an extraordinary God-gifted artist. Some students tried to copy the style of his work, so Sadequain advised them to watch him, learn from him but work from their own mind I learned the most from Jamil Naqsh's paintings. I used to be engrossed in his paintings for hours, trying to figure out how he created the texture, how he created the painting. He was a superb painter. Jamil Naqsh is one of the greatest painters of Pakistan.

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**HUM  
AWARDS  
2019**  
THE WINNERS  
OF THE NIGHT!

**ANTI-AGING**  
Secrets  
*Revealed*

GRACEFUL

*Brides*  
by **ROSE BEAUTY PARLOUR**